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III.—CALLING ATTENTION TO PREVALENCE OF CHOLERA IN KODAMBAKAM, MYLAPORE, ETC., PLACES

வித்துவான் தி. முத்துக்கண்ணப்பன்: தலைவர் அவர்களே, சென்னை மேல்மன்றத்தின் விதி 42 (1)-ன் கீழ் பின் குறிப்பிடும் அவசரமான, அவசியமான, பொதுநல முக்கியம் வாய்ந்த விஷயத்தைக் கனம் சுகாதார அமைச்சர் அவர்களின் கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவர உங்கள் முன் அனுமதியைக் கோருகிறேன்.

கடந்த சில நாட்களாக சென்னை நகரத்தில், முக்கியமாக கோடம்பாக்கம், சைதாப்பேட்டை, மைலாப்பூர், பழைய வண்ணாரப்பேட்டை, திருவல்லிக்கேணி முதலிய பகுதிகளிலும், தண்ணீர் தேங்கி நிற்கும் குடியிருப்புகளிலும், கொள்ளை நோயான காலரா பெருவாரியாகப் பரவி வருகிறது. 300-க்கு மேலானவர்கள் பாதிக்கப்பட்டிருப்பதாகவும் பலர் இறந்துவிட்டதாகவும் பத்திரிகைகளில் செய்தி வெளியாகி உள்ளது.

உடனடியாகத் தடுப்பு நடவடிக்கை மேற்கொண்டு கட்டுப்படுத்தும் அவசர நிலை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்று நினைக்கிறேன். சமீபத்தில் பெய்த பெருமழையின் காரணமாகக் கோடம்பாக்கம், சைதாப்பேட்டை, மாம்பலம், அடையாறு போன்ற இடங்களில் தண்ணீர் தேங்கி நின்று அசுத்தமடைந்து ஆரோக்கிய நிலைமையைப் பாதித்திருப்பதால் காலரா மேலும் பலவிடங்களுக்கும் விரைவாகப் பரவலாம் என்று அஞ்சப்படுகிறது.

ஆதலால் உடனடியாகத் தக்க தடுப்பு நடவடிக்கை எடுத்து விரைவில் இந்தக் கொள்ளை நோயை ஒழித்துவிட ஆவன செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று கோருகிறேன்.

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I wish to make this statement on the floor of this House.

On the 17th October 1962, a few suspected cases of cholera were reported in the City of Madras from Trustpuram, Kodambakkam area, and four cases were admitted into the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Tondiarpet, which were reported to be positive. Steps were immediately taken by the Corporation of Madras to set in motion all the necessary machinery for preventing the epidemic from spreading and for taking care of the reported cases. An Assistant Health Officer was placed solely in charge of anti-cholera work with the necessary assistance at Kodambakkam which was the main centre of the epidemic. On the 20th October 1962, notifications were issued by the Collector of Madras and the Collector of Chingleput declaring Madras and Chingleput districts to be threatened by an outbreak of cholera. The Director of Public Health has lent 151 Health Inspectors for anti-cholera work. They along with the Public Health staff of the Corporation of Madras have been doing intensive inoculation in the affected areas and their periphery. Inoculation work in the other areas, not so far affected by cholera, is being done by the regular division staff. Private medical practitioners have also been co-operating in giving anti-cholera inoculation. Requests

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from institutions, schools, etc., for having the staff and the inmates inoculated are being complied with promptly. Conservancy work in the affected areas has been intensified by the appointment of additional staff wherever necessary and the areas are thoroughly cleaned and disinfected with bleaching powder and slaked lime, etc. Sufficient number of ambulance vans has been stationed in the affected areas so that reported cases could be promptly removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital. Anti-fly measures have been intensified in the affected areas and nearabouts and intensive spraying with pyrethrum and diazinon is being carried out to kill flies which act as carriers of cholera germs. Stern measures are being taken to prevent selling of unwholesome and exposed foodstuffs on the pavements in or near about the affected areas.

Kodambakkam where the attack was first reported is an unsewered area and has also defective water-supply. Arrangements have been made to supply protected drinking water to the area by water lorries. As a general precaution, extra chlorination has been resorted to at the Kilpauk pumping station.

Up to 12 noon on the 2nd November 1962, the total number of cases admitted into the Infectious Diseases Hospital was 331, of which 215 were positive cases of cholera, 90 negative cases, and 26 cases were under observation. The total number of deaths was 16. To the extent possible, intensive propaganda is being done with a propaganda van in the affected areas and nearabout in order to bring home to the people the precautions that should be taken to prevent attacks of cholera. The epidemic is under control and the Government are watching the situation carefully.

IV.—GOVERNMENT MOTION.

MOTION UNDER RULE 23 (1) OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL RULES.

3-20 p.m. THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Mr. Deputy Chairman, I move—

"That rule 23 (1) of the Madras Legislative Council Rules be suspended and this House do resolve to transact Government Business on Saturday, the 3rd November 1962".

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is—

"That rule 23 (1) of the Madras Legislative Council Rules be suspended and this House do resolve to transact Government Business on Saturday, the 3rd November 1962".

The motion was put and carried.

V.—THE TENTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR: Mr. Deputy Chairman, I move for leave of the House for the postponement of the presentation of the Tenth Report of the Committee on Government Assurances. The Report is ready but it refers to a number